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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: § Art Unit 2856  
David M. Tucker et al. §  
Serial No: 10/716,248 § Examiner:  
Filed: 02/13/2003 § Garber, Charles D.  
Title: Subsea Vehicle Assisted §  
Pipeline Commissioning Method § Attorney Docket  
§ VCSre

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22312-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of 12/15/2004, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider the rejections made in light of the following remarks.

The rejection of Claims 1, 4, 5, 6 and 9 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bliss et al. (US Patent 5,883,303) in view of Graves (US Patent 5,927,901) and Matthews, Jr. (US Patent 3,777,499) is respectfully traversed.

The major difference of the reissue claims, over the claims in the original Patent which recite "pumps", is to assert broader claims to which Applicants are entitled. For example, Claim 1 of this reissue application recites in line 4 "...one